EXHIBIT 10

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	1 DEPOSITION OF SAMUEL ZIMBABWE
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DATE TAKEN: OCTOBER 28, 2021 REPORTED BY: CINDY M. KOCH, RPR, CRR, CCR #2357	25
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1 APPEARANCES	1 SEATTLE, WASHINGTON; OCTOBER 28, 2021
2 FOR PLAINTIFF:	9:05 a.m.
3 TYLER S. WEAVER GABRIEL REILLY-BATES	3 -000-
4 Calfo Eakes LLP	4 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Good morning. This is
1301 Second Avenue	5 the deposition of Samuel Zimbabwe in the matter of
5 Suite 2800 Seattle, WA 98101-3808	· '
6 206.407.2237	
tylerw@calfoeakes.com	7 No. 20-cv-00983, in the United States District Court,
7 gaber@calfoeakes.com	8 Western District of Washington, at Seattle, and was
8 FOR DEFENDANT:	9 noticed by Calfo Eakes.
9	The time now is approximately 9:05 a.m. on this
SHANE P. CRAMER	11 28th day of October, 2021, and we are convening via
Harrigan Leyh Farmer & Thomsen LLP 999 Third Avenue	12 Buell Virtual Depositions.
Suite 4400	13 My name is Cathy Zak, from Buell Realtime
Seattle, WA 98104	Reporting, LLC, located at 1325 4th Avenue, Suite 1840,
12 206.623.1700	15 in Seattle, Washington 98101.
shanec@harriganleyh.com 13	16 Will counsel please identify themselves for the
14 ALSO PRESENT: CATHY ZAK, videographer	17 record.
Buell Realtime Reporting, LLC	18 MR. WEAVER: This is Tyler Weaver, for the
15 16 * * * * *	The state of the s
17	19 plaintiffs, from Calfo Eakes. And with me I have Gabe
18	20 Reilly-Bates, who is also participating, is online
19	21 today.
20 21	MR. CRAMER: And Shane Cramer, Harrigan
22	23 Leyh, on behalf of the Defendant City of Seattle.
23	24 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Thank you. The court
	I'lle Vibeoord ii lielt. Illanit your Thousant
24 25	25 reporter may now swear in the witness.

25

for people and goods in the -- in the vicinity, but also

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Page 29 Page 31 1 1 BY MR. WEAVER: work on behalf of the City to de-escalate the conflict 2 2 Q. Okay. Which ones was -- which ones did the that was present in order to return to regular 3 3 operations of all of the streets. City allow? 4 A. So there -- there were -- this is not on 4 The -- so in balancing those things, I was 5 June 9th. This is -- or June 11th. This was after we 5 continually looking for opportunities to de-escalate the 6 regularized a traffic pattern for -- for the area in 6 conflict that was -- that was present there. 7 order to -- to -- to provide a regular, standard traffic 7 So, you know, we would communicate with people 8 8 present on behalf -- who were representing or on behalf pattern. 9 9 There were City-provided barriers, the ecology of protesters, but it was -- we weren't seeking their 10 blocks, some of the other traffic control devices that 10 consent. We were still taking our City were present, that we allowed. Other things that were 11 responsibilities. 11 12 not -- not -- not those regular devices, using things 12 So we were taking the input or the -- the 13 concerns, the feedback, of people protesting, but also 13 like cars to temporarily block a street or something 14 14 like that, were not at any point allowed by the City. the conversations that I was having with residents and 15 Q. Okay. Did the City remove things such as the 15 businesses around the area as well. 16 Q. Okay. But the area wasn't completely cleared 16 cars that were parked in the area? 17 A. We did not prohibit any parking in the area. 17 of barriers, people, and cars in the street by the City 18 Q. Okay. Including in the middle of a street; is 18 until July 1, 2020; is that correct? 19 MR. CRAMER: Objection. Form. Compound. 19 that correct? A. We did not remove vehicles from the middle of 20 20 A. The area -- the entire area, but we were the street. 21 working continuously from -- from June 9th until that 21 22 22 Q. Okav. What obstructions of the streets and July 1st time to make sure that we had a regular traffic 23 sidewalks did the City remove? 23 pattern that enabled access for people, goods, and I 24 A. So we did remove the -- there -- some of those 24 would say services is part of that as well, and continually de-escalating the conflict. 25 initial items that had been rearranged by protesters, 25 Page 30 Page 32 1 BY MR. WEAVER: 1 like the water filled barriers and some of the other 2 2 Q. Okay. When did SDOT finally clear out all the barricades that had been established in various places. 3 We did remove those -- those items. 3 barriers in the streets in and around Cal Anderson and And I would say, when -- if we ever encountered 4 4 the East Precinct? Was that July 1, 2020? 5 5 A. I believe that it was July 1st. And there may a vehicle that was parked in the middle of the street 6 that was intended to be open for traffic, we did talk 6 have been a few activities that lasted into July 2nd, 7 7 with the occupants or -- or talk with protesters about but I believe it was July -- mostly July 1st. 8 removing that barrier and enabling the free flow of 8 Q. Okay. Was there action taken before then to 9 traffic in the places that were intended for -- for 9 clear out all the barriers in the streets and sidewalks 10 10 vehicular use. prior to July 1, 2020? A. There were some -- there were efforts as soon 11 Q. Okay. And prior to July 1, 2020, the barriers 11 12 that SDOT removed were removed after agreement with the 12 as June 9th to remove barriers from -- from that -- that 13 people in the area; is that correct? 13 area. And at those -- at various points, we were met 14 A. I would say, after communication with the --14 with substantial resistance from -- from protesters. So 15 the people in the area. There wasn't always full 15 there was an effort on June 9th to remove some of the --16 agreement, but there was communication. 16 the places where -- where there had been sort of 17 Q. Okay. Why -- why do you say there wasn't 17 makeshift barricades created by protesters. 18 agreement? 18 There was another instance after we had 19 A. Well, you know, I felt like our role in that 19 provided our regular traffic control where we did intend 20 20 to reopen streets to traffic and were met with was -- you know, we -- we -- after June 8th, there was a 21 21 substantial amount of conflict between people who were substantial resistance from people protesting. 22 Q. I think we'll get into this more later, but protesting and -- and the Seattle Police Department. 22 23 what do you mean by "substantial resistance"? 23 And after June 8th, I felt like our role, as -my role, as the director of SDOT, was to maintain access 24 A. So we had people lie down in front of 24

construction equipment. We had people trying to climb

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into construction equipment that our operators were -were operating. We had people lie on top of some of those ecology block barriers and -- and sort of block access to what the construction equipment needed to attach to.

We had some crowds forming around -- around some of our construction workers seeking to do -- do their work, and they would -- we would sort of get followed around some of the -- the site, being yelled at and things like that. Not -- not physical assault on our employees.

Q. So you talked earlier about how there was a removal of some barriers and some addition of eco barriers to the area by SDOT.

Do you recall that?

A. Yes.

Q. Okay. What do you recall about that process?

A. So what I recall is that, the morning of June 9th, myself, Fire Chief Harold Scoggins, the general manager of Seattle Public Utilities Mami Hara, and I, and maybe a few other people sort of all came to the 12th and Pine intersection to survey the -- the area, to understand what was going on, what the conditions were. That's what led to Chief Scoggins' email, the email that we discussed, Exhibit 3.

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the City went in and changed the footprint of the protest area, was there any discussion about how long it was anticipated that that might be in place?

A. I don't recall there being a discussion of that.

Q. Was there any discussion about a deadline by which the barriers that had just been placed would need to be removed?

A. The -- and just to make sure we're on the -- we're talking about the same thing, I'm talking about the -- when SDOT provided ecology blocks and sort of regularized the traffic control, we did not have a deadline by which that would be removed.

And so in creating that traffic control plan, we worked to make sure that all of the driveways and business access could be maintained without need for any special kind of operations.

It was all sort of within a regular -- what we would have determined if -- if there were a need for a long-term closure for construction activities or some other -- some other activity beyond protests, it would have been fine for the streets to operate in that way.

Q. So I -- yeah, that's what I was talking about.

And my understanding is that those changes were made on June 16th or 17th, or maybe both; is that correct?

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Page 34

Over the course of the next few days, leading through the weekend, that weekend, we worked to develop a -- what we felt was a traffic control plan that would meet all of the City's and the adjacent property owners' needs for services and property access, but also sort of regularized a protest area that might stay closed to normal street operations for the period that the protests would be active.

And at that point we were continually working to -- to de-escalate the conflict, and so we didn't have a fixed timeline of how long that would need to be put in place.

So we felt like it was a -- an operation that would need to potentially operate in this form for sort of an indeterminate period of time as we worked on de-escalating the situation.

So that plan was developed over the course of that week, and there were a series of meetings that included protest leaders and some conversations with businesses and residents in the area as well. And there were some informal and formal meetings of those groups.

Q. Okay. There was a lot there, so I'm going to ask you -- I'm going to ask you a few follow-ups. Okay?

A. Yes.

Q. So about the indeterminate period of time, when

A. Yeah, that's -- that's my recollection as well.

Q. Okay. And so tell me what that specific process of creating that area and -- and those barriers on the 16th and 17th, what that entailed, the physical process.

A. The -- maybe -- okay. Let me make sure I -- the physical process. So we -- you know, what we did -- let me -- let me just talk through a little bit of what the traffic pattern was, and then we can talk about how we did it.

So when we -- what we regularized still included some street closures. So Pine Street remained closed between 10th and 11th Avenues. 11th Avenue did not connect across Pine any longer. It was sort of a temporary blockage of the intersection through. And then Pine, between 11th and 12th Avenues, was turned into a one-way street westbound, from being a two-way street prior.

Other than that, all -- all streets reopened to vehicular access. In the process of doing that, we -- we brought to the site and installed the concrete ecology block barriers.

We also installed some new traffic control. We installed, I believe, a stop sign at 12th and Pine, which previously would have been controlled by a traffic

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approach to de-escalating and reducing some of the

conflict, to maintain that separation between vehicles

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Page 37 Page 39 1 signal, some one-way signs, some other -- other signage 1 that didn't need to be in the area and those -- those 2 that went into the area that regularized that traffic 2 protest activities. 3 3 control plan. And so the local access was just another way Q. Okay. How many ecology blocks did SDOT move 4 4 to -- to communicate that to people who maybe didn't 5 into the area on June 16th or 17th? 5 know what area of the city they were in, that they 6 A. I don't recall the specific number, but it 6 didn't -- if they didn't need to come through that way, 7 was -- it would have been 50 to 100 ecology blocks. 7 that they -- they didn't -- they -- that they probably 8 Q. Okay. 8 shouldn't. While also saying, if you have something to 9 A. I mean, I'm sure we can provide a precise 9 do here, you're freely welcome to come in. 10 number, but I don't -- I don't recall. 10 BY MR. WEAVER: Q. The streets that were one-way in the area 11 Q. Okay. So there was a recognition that, despite 11 12 and -- were they local access only? 12 the footprint of the barrier, there was probably going 13 A. We did have signs that said local access only, 13 to be spillover as far as pedestrians and protests and those were a standard sign that we provide. It's outside those barriers at certain times as well; is that 14 14 called a Type 3 barrier, that has -- that says "Street 15 15 correct? 16 closed" and "Local access only." 16 A. That's what we experienced in the days leading 17 And the purpose of that, for us, is to 17 up to that -- you know, in that first week, when there 18 communicate to people driving that they should only go 18 were no real traffic control separations, that we -- we 19 through if they -- if they need to, but if they have 19 did see some of that activity happening. So yes. 20 business within that area, that's what local access 20 Q. Okay. And you were anticipating that was going 21 means, that it's open for local access. 21 to continue to happen; correct? 22 Q. Okay. So where were the local access only 22 A. That there was the possibility of that, yes. 23 signs, if you recall? 23 Q. And did it -- did that in fact happen after the 24 A. So they were at the perimeter of -- of, you 24 barriers were shuffled around and added on June 16th and 25 know, where -- where we were -- where we had changed 25 17th? Page 38 Page 40 1 some of the traffic patterns. So I recall them being 1 MR. CRAMER: Objection. Form. 2 2 at -- on the north side, they would have been at Olive, A. I mean, you know, I would -- I would come to 3 so at 11th and 12th and Olive. 3 the site pretty frequently throughout that whole month 4 Q. Uh-huh. 4 of June, or for -- starting on June 9th, and there were 5 A. There may have been one set that was one block 5 times when I saw a lot of people there, and there were 6 farther north. The -- there were some at Pike, at both 6 times when, you know, the -- the areas even that we had 7 7 11th and 12th. There may have been one at 13th and set aside for sort of more ongoing protest activities 8 Pine. And then there may have been one at 10th and Pike 8 weren't sufficient to contain the number of pedestrians 9 9 as well. and people protesting. 10 10 Q. Why -- why was the area declared local access And so I do think that having the streets be 11 only? 11 local access only limited the ability for 12 12 MR. CRAMER: Objection. Form as to "area." vehicle-pedestrian conflicts. 13 13 A. So, you know, we were -- what we -- we were BY MR. WEAVER: trying to limit the amount and the opportunity for 14 Q. Okay. Did SDOT also put into place speed bumps 14 in the area in and around the East Precinct and Cal 15 vehicle and pedestrian conflict, even after that 15 16 June 16th timeline. 16 Anderson? 17 There were times of day and times of protest 17 A. We did. They -- you know, they were not 18 activity where there were a lot of pedestrians that were 18 traditional speed bumps. They were -- they -- we --19 sort of too many people for the sidewalks to contain. 19 they're what's called a quick curb that served the 20 20 And so we -- and we had had an incident, I think before purpose of what a speed hump would do, but were 21 June 8th, where a vehicle had driven into a crowd of 21 something that was -- you know, our typical speed humps 22 22 are done with asphalt and have a more substantial protesters. construction impact and eventual removal impact. 23 And so we were trying, again, as part of that 23

We didn't anticipate that those would stay

forever, and so we used a sort of temporary approach to

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those, but we did have a few places where we we did	Precinct and understand that those may continue for
2 install those, particularly around the intersection of	2 certain a certain amount of time and and, as I
3 12th and Pine.	mentioned, have a regular traffic pattern.
4 Q. Okay. Do you recall other areas where you had	4 (Exhibit No. 4 marked.)
5 temporary speed humps?	5 BY MR. WEAVER:
6 A. I don't.	6 Q. Okay. So I'm going to drop into the chat
7 Q. Okay. Why, in particular, were they around	7 Exhibit 4.
8 12th and Pine?	8 A. Got it.
9 A. So 12th and Pine has a traffic signal usually.	9 Q. So there's an email from you on June 20th
We had put in a stop sign instead. We did see and	June 29th, I'm sorry, 2020, that was forwarded to
that's where we had the sort of ecology block barriers,	11 Lorelei Williams.
and we changed some of the the directionality of the	Do you see that?
streets.	13 A. Yes.
We did see some vehicles, as we opened those	14 Q. Okay. Who's Lorelei Williams?
streets back up to traffic, driving quickly, so we	A. Lorelei Williams was a deputy director at SDOT.
don't we didn't need to we wanted people to drive	She was the deputy director for capital project
slowly and anticipate that there could be more	17 delivery.
pedestrians that they weren't expecting to be in the	18 Q. Okay.
the you know, crossing the street. And we had	19 A. And she left City employment in, I believe,
changed the traffic pattern to have that stop sign	January of this year, of 2021.
rather than a a traffic signal.	21 Q. Okay. And were you drafting had you drafted
22 MR. WEAVER: Okay. I can't believe it.	in your email on June 29th talking points regarding
23 We've been going about an hour. Want to take a	23 Capitol Hill?
24 ten-minute break?	A. Yeah. She had she was representing SDOT at
MR. CRAMER: Yeah. Yeah, let's take ten.	a I don't remember what forum, but she had asked me
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1 It did fly by.	what she had not been involved in the outside of
2 MR. WEAVER: All right.	2 her area of of responsibilities within SDOT, but she
3 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Going off the record.	was representing SDOT with external stakeholders, and
4 The time is approximately 10:00 a.m.	4 asked me what if it came up, what she should say.
5 (Recess from 10:00 a.m. to 10:10 a.m.)	5 Q. Okay. And so you drafted these talking points
6 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are back on the	6 for her; is that right?
7 record. The time is approximately 10:10 a.m.	7 A. I did.
8 E X A M I N A T I O N (Continuing)	8 Q. Okay. So in the fourth bullet point of your
9 BY MR. WEAVER:	9 talking points, you say, "SDOT worked to install
10 Q. So would you agree that that SDOT, by moving	10 barriers to create a protest zone."
the barriers into by moving the ecology blocks into	And then in the sixth bullet point, you say,
the area on June 16th and 17th, was creating a protest	12 "Definitely new activities for our crews in terms of
13 zone?	13 creating this zone."
14 MR. CRAMER: Objection. Form.	14 What did you mean by "creating this zone" and
A. We were trying to make sure that there were the	15 "create a protest zone"?
16 continued ability for First Amendment activities and	16 MR. CRAMER: Objection. Form.
17 have a as I mentioned before, a regular traffic	A. So I guess, going back to my previous answer on
18 pattern as well.	this, we worked to create some additional pedestrian
19 BY MR. WEAVER:	space or that was used for protest activities.
Q. Is it your understanding, though, that you were	Again, centered on the East Precinct, but also including
creating a protest zone?	some of the areas adjacent to Cal Anderson Park, that
MR. CRAMER: Objection. Form. Asked and	were that, you know, sort of expanded the the
answered.	pedestrian space, while also creating that separation
A. We were working to to continue to allow the	24 between vehicular traffic.
25 protests that were happening in front of the East	25 In terms of the sixth bullet and new activities

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for our crews, the -- I don't think that we've done anything similar to this before or since. Typically, when we've used things like water filled barriers to create some of these separations or we've done temporary street closures or things like that, we've had an expectation that those materials that we use and provide and install will stay in the pattern that -- that we've installed them.

What we saw prior to June 16th and 17th was that materials that we had -- had deployed for those -- you know, for the -- the crowd control and things like that had moved -- had been moved, and additional materials added.

So we didn't want to -- we wanted to -- we -- we needed to find some new vocabulary of -- of separation that would be -- would -- would accomplish our -- our goal of de-escalation and creating some of that additional area for protests -- protests to happen without being redeployed and moved in ways that we hadn't intended.

BY MR. WEAVER:

Q. Okay. And that -- the moving in area -- in ways that you had not intended, as far as the barriers that were there, that continued after June 16th and 17th, as well; correct?

Q. What were -- what were some of those materials that would get moved around?

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A. So as part of the installation on June 16th and 17th, we also installed some plywood boxes or covers around the ecology blocks, and those were intended to serve a few purposes.

The first was that they were -- they were opportunities for art to happen, and sort of canvass, if you will, for some of the -- the protest art. And that was something that, as we talked to the protest leaders that we -- we were communicating with in the lead-up to that, they felt like the art was a positive aspect of the -- what was -- what was happening in that protest area and was an opportunity.

We also -- you know, there had been a lot of graffiti and lots of -- on lots of private buildings, and so this was also part of our attempt to attract some of that activity to -- off of private property and buildings into -- into this. So those plywood boxes were serving some of that function.

The second function is that the -- the easiest way to move an ecology block is, there's a sort of metal ring that's on the top, is set into the concrete, that you attach a chain from a construction -- a piece of construction equipment, and that -- you're able to lift

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A. It did at various points, and -- yeah, there -- there were some various times when -- when -- when -- when that would happen. You know, I think that the -- that is -- you know, that -- that's, like -- that was one of the -- the challenges that we faced in terms of how -- you know, creating that regularized traffic pattern, while -- while we -- you know, so it was really intermittent.

I think that this -- this email also sort of highlights some of that, that there were some intermittent challenges that -- that could be resolved with -- with conversation and -- and discussion about -- but not -- but that -- that created ongoing operational challenges for us as a department.

Q. So there were ongoing operational challenges because at some -- at some points various barriers would show up in areas that they had not previously been placed; is that right?

A. Yeah, you know, there would be sort of minor moving of barriers. The -- the ecology blocks didn't really -- didn't move until sort of the -- the very, very end of the time when the -- they were -- they were deployed out there. They're very challenging to move. But there were other -- other materials that would get sort of moved around on a -- on a regular basis.

it up.

So the -- some of the plywood box was intended to limit access to those -- those rings, which are the easiest way to move a -- move an ecology block and make it sort of so that other people couldn't come and access that in a very easy way.

And then I think there were -- there were some members of the protest group who were concerned that outside -- outside actors wished them harm, wished -- you know, they were -- there was a lot of -- among some of them, there was a lot of concern that people were going to come and try to do harm to the people protesting.

And so there was a -- the ecology block barriers are very low. They're about two feet tall. And so the plywood barriers helped to prevent a little bit of, like, being able to see into the -- into the area where people were -- were protesting and -- and, you know, sometimes sleeping overnight and things like that

So that was the -- the purpose of those. Those plywood barrier -- plywood components, eventually the protesters sort of figured out how they could remove those from some of the barrier -- the ecology blocks, and -- and those sort of boxes would get moved around at

	Page 81		Page 83
1	Q. Are you aware that there were that the	1	specifics.
2	police department and the fire department had certain	2	Q. Do you know anything specific about the trash
3	policies about not going into the area except for	3	collection in the area in and around Cal Anderson Park
4	certain reasons?	4	from June 9th to July 1, 2020?
5	MR. CRAMER: Objection. Form.	5	A. I I don't. You know, my conversations
6	A. Yeah, I wasn't aware of of that. My	6	with with Mami Hara were focused on making sure that
7	conversations with Chief Scoggins centered on on	7	we could do that. And and as we talked about the
8	how how they would respond to various emergencies,	8	traffic patterns, it was my understanding that they
9	and where fire trucks and ambulances would have to	9	that they could use those traffic patterns and respond
10	access the area.	10	and make trash collection.
11	BY MR. WEAVER:	11	Q. Okay. But you don't know specifically what
12	Q. Were there lanes that you felt were opened up	12	happened; is that right?
13	so that they could so that the fire department could	13	A. No.
14	access the area completely at any time during June 2020,	14	Q. Okay.
15	from June 8th through July 1st?	15	MR. CRAMER: We've been going for about an
16	MR. CRAMER: Objection. Form.	16	hour. I don't know if you're at a
17	A. Can I can I clarify your question?	17	MR. WEAVER: Yeah, we have. If you want to
18	BY MR. WEAVER:	18	take another ten minutes.
19	Q. Sure.	19	MR. CRAMER: Sure.
20	A. Are you asking, were there did we have an	20	MR. WEAVER: All right.
21	understanding of how Fire would respond to incidents?	21	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Going off the record.
22	Q. Was it your understanding that Fire would	22	The time is approximately 11:13 a.m.
23	respond to incidents, and they had room to do so, during	23	(Recess from 11:13 a.m. to 11:23 a.m.)
24	the entire period of June 9th through July 1, 2020, in	24	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are back on the
25	the area in and around the East Precinct and Cal	25	record. The time is approximately 11:23 a.m.
			,
	Page 82		Page 84
1	Anderson Park?	1	(Exhibit No. 7 marked.)
2	A. From a physical access perspective, from how we	2	EXAMINATION (Continuing)
3	set our traffic control, how we worked for to provide	3	BY MR. WEAVER:
4	street access, the physical I think the physical	4	Q. All right. I am going to bring another
5	features that would be necessary for a fire truck or an	5	document into the chat in a second here. This will be
6	ambulance to access the area were provided.	6	Exhibit 7.
7	Q. After June 17, 2020, you mean?	7	Let me know when you have it up.
8	A. I think even before before that. There	8	A. I have it up.
9	were you know, there were still you know,	9	Q. Okay. So first of all, do you recognize this
10	12th Avenue had access. As I mentioned, I believe that	10	document?
11	traffic services were provided each and every day.	11	A. Yes. I believe this is an email from Laurel
12	Those same you know, trash truck and a fire truck	12	Nelson, who was acting director of Office of Emergency
13	have similar clearance requirements in terms of getting	13	Management, including myself and a number of other
14	into a to an area to access.	14	cabinet members.
15	Q. What do you know about what was required to get	15	Q. Okay. Around this time, June 9th, June 10th,
16	trash access into the area on any particular day in	<mark>16</mark>)	June 11th, were you involved in regular cabinet meetings
17	June of 2020?	<u>17</u>	with the mayor's office and other department heads?
18	A. That's outside of SDOT's area of	18	A. Yes.
19	responsibility, trash collection, so that's really a	<mark>19</mark>	Q. Okay. And about how frequently were you having
20	a question that SPU would have to speak to.	20	these meetings in that time period?
21	Q. Okay. And what do you know about what SPU had	21	A. They were they would be pretty frequent. I
22	done with dumpsters during this time period of June 9th	22	think they were somewhat regular. Then we would have
23	to July 1, 2020?	23	some sometimes when it wasn't wasn't daily
24	A. You know, I I was aware of some some	24	always, but there would be some some times when it
25	modifications that they'd made, but I couldn't speak to	25	was multiple times a day, even.
23	modifications that they a made, but I couldn't speak to		was multiple times a day, even.

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Q. Okay. Do you recall what her reactions were,

for example, about the plan on June 16th?

Page 85 Page 87 Q. And so that continued throughout June of 2020? 1 A. You know, I think specifically on June 16th, it 1 2 was -- it was really status updates of when -- when 2 A. Yes. 3 Q. What was your understanding of the purpose of 3 things were going to be happening and when -- when we 4 these meetings? 4 were -- when we were going to be operating. I don't --5 A. The purpose of these meetings was to share 5 I don't recall her reaction to the -- to the plan. 6 information and really report out on -- on what 6 Q. Okay. How about, what were your conversations 7 activities were going on among -- among all the 7 with her later on, after June 16th, about what SDOT was 8 departments that were responding, and to make sure that 8 doing in the area? 9 9 there was understanding with the -- with the mayor's A. You know, I think we were -- we were continuing 10 10 office, as well, about what was -- what was happening. to -- to keep her abreast of what -- what activities Q. Okay. So do you recall being in any meetings 11 11 were. I did participate in some of the -- there was, 12 in which Mayor Durkan, herself, participated during 12 like, conversations about where -- you know, where 13 June 9th to July 1, 2020? 13 things were going, what the -- you know, what -- what our activities as a city were. And those tended to be 14 A. Yes. I do. 14 Q. Okay. About how many times do you think that 15 15 these larger group conversations. 16 16 Q. Okay. Do you recall talking to her, yourself, was? 17 A. You know, I -- I couldn't -- I don't remember 17 about what you'd been hearing from residents and 18 that with that specificity. It was certainly not 18 businesses in the area? 19 19 every -- every meeting that we would have. And, you A. I don't. 20 Q. Okay. Do you recall communicating that to 20 know, these meetings are very similar to the way that we anybody in the mayor's office, what you'd been hearing? 21 21 respond to any kind of citywide emergency, a snowstorm 22 or, you know, things of that nature. So it's a very 22 A. I know I probably did. There were probably 23 23 typical operational strategy that we have as a city. some -- there were some -- some group discussions along And that includes times when the mayor joins those 24 24 with Chief Scoggins and -- and Mami Hara, where we were 25 relating our -- our series of conversations. I don't conversations as well. 2.5 Page 88 Page 86 Q. Sure. Can you give me an estimate of how many 1 1 know if I recall specifics of -- of when and how. 2 times you talked to the mayor about things related to 2 Q. So let's go -- let's go to Exhibit 7. And do 3 the protests and the CHOP area between June 9th and 3 you happen to recall whether there was a phone call of 4 July 1, 2020? 4 the cabinet at 6:00 a.m. on June 10th? 5 A. I would say maybe around a dozen times, if I 5 A. Yes. I believe there was. 6 6 Q. Okay. And was it your understanding that had to -- if I had to put a number on it. 7 7 Laurel Nelson was taking notes of those meetings and Q. Okay. Did you ever talk to the mayor directly, 8 one-on-one, at any point? 8 then distributing them at that time? 9 9 A. Yes. A. I did. 10 Q. Okay. What -- what did you talk about with the 10 Q. Okay. So I'd like you to go to Page 2 of this 11 mayor when you met? 11 document. I want to ask you about a few things on it. 12 12 So in the middle in a larger font, it says, A. The few times that I talked to her directly 13 "Overall Objectives: Continuing the existing footprint 13 were around the specific SDOT-related actions that we of peaceful demonstration and rights." 14 were taking. So I believe on the -- the morning of 14 15 June 16th, I think I spoke directly with her. 15 Do you see that? 16 There were, you know, a couple of times when we 16 A. Yes. 17 were taking some of those direct actions with, you know, 17 Q. Okay. Do you recall a discussion about that 18 18 during this cabinet meeting on June 10th? installing the ecology blocks or as -- and when we got 19 to the point of removing them, I did speak directly with 19 A. I -- I do. I mean, this -- these notes sort of 20 20 the mayor. reflect that, but yes. The -- there was sort of a --21 Q. Okay. Just to let her know what was going on 21 a -- this was the day after that June 9th date of -- of 22 and what was the plan? 22 being there. 23 23 A. Yes. And so at that point, you know, there was a

sort of regular -- there was a group of people who were

pretty committed to staying in front of the East

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Page 89 Page 91 the public and -- through things -- platforms like 1 1 Precinct and continuing the protest activities right 2 2 Google Maps and others about when we have a regular 3 3 street closure, "This street is closed." And so that Q. Okay. So whose objective was it to continue 4 the existing footprint? 4 can go into their routing software, that we can sort of 5 A. I think it was a shared City-wide objective 5 push out that information. 6 in -- in that conversation of -- in that direction 6 And we wanted to have a -- a regularized street 7 towards de-escalation of making sure the people were --7 closure so that we could do those sorts of things and 8 8 make sure there was public information available to -had that continued opportunity for protests, and that 9 9 we -- that that could be done in a safe way. to enable residents and businesses to be able to --10 10 Q. Okay. Paragraph 1 are -- are a few items here to -- to function normally. Q. So did SDOT report to Google and other mapping 11 that indicate that it was the lead -- SDOT was the lead. 11 12 services that there were closures in the area? 12 Do you see that? 13 A. We did. I don't know the exact timing of when, 13 A. Umm -but we did -- we did communicate. 14 Q. 1.1 and 1.2, paragraphs there? 14 15 15 Q. Okay. A. Right. So we were the lead on the physical 16 16 modifications to the footprint as the responsible A. And I would say, again, those -- those -- you 17 parties for the right-of- -- you know, the street 17 know, it was important for us, even -- you know, we 18 discussed previously local access. If you had a -- a --18 right-of-way. We were -- we were the lead on those 19 an address within that area that was local access and 19 physical modifications. 20 20 you were putting it into a routing software, you could Q. And so was the City's goal at this point to 21 still -- it wouldn't tell you, you can't get to that 21 remove the non-SDOT barriers and replace them with SDOT 22 site. It would tell you, here's how you get to that --22 barriers? 23 that location. 23 A. Yes. 24 Q. Okay. And --24 But it also -- in theory, when we -- when we do 25 that, it's not routing people through that area if we've 25 A. You know, I just -- sorry --Page 90 Page 92 Q. Go ahead. 1 1 made it local access. And we have that sort of ongoing 2 2 relationship and response- -- you know, working A. -- if I can just clarify that a little bit, is 3 to say that those non-SDOT barriers were the things that 3 relationship with those software providers. 4 were not typically used as traffic control, but -- and 4 We have a number of streets that, in the midst 5 things like the bike rack barriers and other sort of 5 of the pandemic, we turned into local access only. We 6 6 called them "Stay healthy streets." We communicate. So irregular barricades, but to restore a traffic pattern 7 7 that maintained our core responsibilities around those -- those streets are open to people who live on 8 providing public access and -- and ensuring services 8 those streets, deliveries and things like that, but 9 could be delivered. 9 they're not -- people aren't routed onto those streets 10 Q. Okay. What -- 1.2 says, "Pivot this into a if they're through traffic. So those mapping providers 10 street closure." 11 work with us on -- on communicating that information out 11 Do you understand what that -- what that meant? 12 12 to users. 13 13 A. Yeah. So I think this was -- you know, we Q. So I just want to be clear. So if -- with the 14 routing that was done for this particular area in and 14 had -- we had -- rather than having -- there was --15 there were these sort of, again, irregular barricades 15 around East Precinct and Cal Anderson that was local 16 that were blocking off certain streets, while others 16 access only, if somebody put in there that they wanted 17 17

remained open in certain ways.

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So we wanted to turn those irregular things into something that was a more regular traffic pattern. And that's -- there's a couple of reasons for that. One, it's the -- the reason why -- you know, we could -we -- sort of standard materials or other ways that we could put -- sort of regularize those -- the -- the traffic pattern.

And then also we communicate regularly out to

to go to a particular destination, and the normal route would be for them to take 12th Avenue through the Pike and Pine area, the software would route them somewhere else; is that correct?

A. If it was outside. If it was just -- if they were just through traffic coming through on 12th, you know, from Olive to Union, it would send -- it would send them up to -- I think it was probably sending them to 13th. But if it was someplace within that area, it

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Hunters Capital, LLC v. City of Seattle Page 137 11th, so go down -- go down to where you're talking to 1 1 conflict. And so they made the decision to -- to stand 2 Mr. Sixkiller on the 11th. Okay? 2 3 You indicate, "I can have crews within an hour. 3 Q. Okay. But SPD needs a strong presence with them." 4 4 A. Without having -- without sending crews And Mr. Sixkiller says, "First sign of push 5 5 6 back equals pull back." 6 7 Do you see that? 7 8 8 A. Yep. Q. Okay. Do you recall where you were and you 9 9 could have crews there within the hour? 10 10 A. I don't. A. Where I was --11 11 12 Q. Yes. 12 13 13 A. -- personally? Q. When you texted? 14 14 15 A. I was not there. I was not on-site there. I 15 16 was probably in my house at that point. 16 17 Q. Okay. But you could have crews -- I guess you 17 could have crews where within an hour? 18 18 19 A. I can have crews at the -- at the East 19 20 20 Precinct. Q. And that would have been to remove barriers? 21 2.1 was inside of Elliott Bay Books that I believe was on 22 A. Yes. 22 the Saturday. So I think that's the 13th or 14th. That Q. Okay. And Mr. Sixkiller responded, as we 23 23 was with businesses. established, he said, "First sign of push back equals 24 There was also one that I did not participate, 24 25 pull back." 25 but the head of my Transportation Operations Division, Page 138 1 1 What did you understand that to mean? 2 2 A. That -- that some of the -- the thing that we 3 3 had experienced on the 9th, that -- of -- of conflict one. 4 around removing barriers, that we would -- if that 4 Q. Okay. 5 happened, we would -- we would fall back. We wouldn't 5 6 try to escalate that conflict -- conflict. 6 the street. 7 Q. So that was any kind of -- you understood that 7 8 to mean any kind of resistance from the protesters to 8 9 moving or removing a barrier, you would stop; is that 9 it was Emily? 10 correct? 10 11 A. That's correct. 11 12 Q. Okay. And that's the direction you gave to 12 13 13 people, your -- your team?

actually in to do that work. Q. So let me ask again about the eco barriers that were discussed on the 9th and didn't get removed. Do you know why there was a particular interest in getting the eco barriers out, as opposed to the other barriers Q. So we've kind of touched on a few times your communications with permanent residents and business owners in the area in and around the East Precinct in June of 2020: right? A. (Witness nods head.) Q. Do you recall any official meetings that you had where there were representatives of the mayor's group and people from the businesses in the area? A. Yes. There was one that I participated in that

Adiam Emery, that she participated on my behalf with

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Page 139

some businesses. I don't recall the exact date of that

A. And then there were informal conversations on

Q. Sure. Let's talk about the one -- the first -the one that you sent your representative to. You say

A. Her name is Adiam Emery.

Q. Okay. All right. Okay. Got it. What did she tell you about that meeting?

A. So she's -- she's the director of my Transportation Operations Division, and is responsible for our traffic signals, and has within her staff our city traffic engineer too, who signs off on traffic control plans and things like that. So she has a lot of authority for -- for making decisions related to traffic operations and traffic safety.

At the time, her -- the -- the deputy director that's responsible for that portfolio was out on parental leave, so Adiam was in -- in practice, reporting directly to me, but usually she would report through a deputy director.

So I sent -- I -- I couldn't attend that

by about a block off." And I don't -- I think that that was -- there wasn't -- from those discussions, there wasn't -- there wasn't a way to get to removing barriers without

Q. And you -- you don't recall that any barriers

were moved or removed on June 11th; is that right?

message where it said, "I believe Rodney" -- which is

referring to Rodney Maxie, my deputy director -- "and

Scoggins" -- Chief Scoggins -- "are in -- in together

with protesters discussing. Our crew is still standing

A. I don't. And I -- I think that that next text

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A. Yes.

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going on. And so this guy was, like, very upset that we

30(b)(6) and Individual Deposition of Samuel Zimbabwe

Page 181 Page 183 1 BY MR. WEAVER: 1 were moving some things around, and he really was -- was 2 Q. Technology. You gotta love it. 2 very concerned. 3 All right. Exhibit 12 I've dropped into the 3 And so I -- I tried to de-escalate the 4 chat. And it looks like the second email down is an 4 situation. I talked to him. I sort of pulled him away 5 email from you to various people, dated June 18, 2020. 5 so our guy could do -- do this work, but he kept coming 6 Do you see that? 6 back and sort of eventually tried to climb into the cab. 7 A. Yes. 7 We even, like, really got him sort of moved away and 8 Q. And was this an update that you drafted to send 8 enabled our crew to do work. 9 9 to these people? And then there was another case where I think 10 10 A. Was this an update that I drafted -somebody, like, sort of reached out, trying to hit one Q. Did you personally -- did you personally write of our employees, but didn't really -- wasn't successful 11 11 12 this email? 12 in doing that. Q. And so you said there were some people with 13 13 A. I did. Q. Okay. And who was the -- just generally, who mental challenges. What were your observations that 14 14 15 is the group that you were sending this to, and why were 15 lead you to say that? 16 A. Well, this -- this person in particular, like, 16 you sending it to them? 17 A. So this is a group that constitutes our -- our 17 wasn't, I think, 100 percent lucid or -- or operating on 18 labor representation within SDOT. So the -- the union 18 the same view of reality that I had, and was sort of 19 19 very concerned about us moving some of the -- the -representation that represents S- -- represents SDOT 20 20 moving things around out there, and just having a tough staff, and my executive leadership team, so the team --21 21 time with -- with reality. so my deputies, chief of staff, and head of -- of HR 22 and -- and then people in culture, that we -- since the 22 Q. Okay. How about -- how about the person who 23 23 start of the pandemic, we started meeting very regularly tried to hit one of your employees, but failed? What do 24 with the -- with our labor partners because we had a lot 24 you recall about that? 25 of operational issues and challenges that we needed to 2.5 A. You know, I think they were -- they were sort Page 182 Page 184 1 have sort of more consistent broad communication than we 1 of yelling at us, saying that we should -- we should --2 2 we shouldn't be there. We shouldn't be doing this work, had previously. So we -- we would -- we were meeting 3 first every week, and then we moved to biweekly 3 and then, like, tried to initiate contact, and our around -- around June. 4 4 person just sort of moved away, and -- and that was it. 5 Q. Okay. So in this particular update, you were 5 Q. Did you -- at other times that you were up 6 updating them on what had -- what had happened on 6 there with crews, did you have similar run-ins with 7 June 16th and 17th with the barrier change-out; is that 7 people who were mentally unstable? 8 right? 8 A. Yeah, I think some of it was -- was -- yeah, I 9 A. That's right. 9 mean, I think, when we were then removing the barriers, 10 Q. Okay. So let me -- go to the second page, 10 we made one attempt to remove barriers sort of in the --11 first full paragraph. Actually, second full paragraph. 11 a couple -- really about a week or a little bit more 12 You say that your crew had to endure a few tense moments 12 than a week later, and -- and really were met with a lot 13 13 when protesters attempted to provoke reactions and when of concern and resistance. 14 14 someone attempted to interfere with their work. I think some of those people were very 15 What did you mean by that? What were you 15 committed to the protest movement and some people had 16 describina? 16 some mental illness con- -- issues going on with them. 17 A. So there were a few incidents over the course 17 Q. Okay. So let's talk about that. About a week 18 18 later, you said you moved in to try to remove barriers of that day. We had somebody try to climb into the cab 19 without police support; is that right? of a -- of one of our large pieces of construction 19 20 20 A. Well, we originally -- so I -- the date -- I equipment that was move- -- he was moving the ecology 21 21 blocks into place, and the -- a guy -- you know, there don't have the precise date. I think it was -- started 22 were a lot of people -- there were people who were 22 around the -- the -- I want to say like the 25th or the 23 23 26th, where we were going to remove barriers. protesting, and then there were a lot of people up there 24 24 We had police sort of present, but behind our who had sort of other, I would say, mental challenges

staff. They were sort of providing support, sort of

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if -- if we felt we needed support. We ended up seeing that resistance from -- from people. We were starting to fall back and -- and sort of de-conflict and move away.

And then people saw the police and they became a focal point of some of the -- the protests and concerns and conflict. So we didn't -- we didn't do that work without police support, but we weren't -- it wasn't, I would say, police forward.

The police were there in support if we needed it. And we ended up, you know, needing some -- some engagement, but really it was in a de-conflicting, sort of moving away at that point, perspective.

Q. Okay. What was the nature of the resistance that you encountered on this later attempt?

A. So that was when we had people lying down in front of our construction equipment, lying on top of barriers and sort of blocking access for us to be able to remove them. And then crowds forming around us and sort of shouting down the idea that we would be removing barriers

Q. Were there threats of physical violence made by anybody in the crowd?

MR. CRAMER: Objection. Form, foundation.

A. Yeah, I don't feel like we were -- I wasn't

very early in the morning, 5:00 or 6:00 a.m. More people started coming towards -- towards us. And then once they saw the police there, they -- you know, even more -- sort of larger crowds started to form. And people took more -- sort of more of a defensive posture around some of the barriers in the -- the area that people had been -- like around the East Precinct.

Q. So what were the -- some of the defensive postures that people in the crowd took?

A. I mean, they were just like, you know -- like lying down on top of the barriers, trying to block access and -- and things like that.

Q. Okay. So were they doing anything to try to block access, other than lying down?

A. No, I don't -- I mean, I don't remember them doing anything other than that.

Q. Okay. You said you went in at 5:00 or 6:00 a.m. Why did you choose to go in at 5:00 or 6:00 a.m.?

A. That was a time when it was generally quieter. That was the earliest that we could mobilize our -- our staff and recognize that this would be a sort of full department response in terms -- or not full department, but full -- full crew response in terms of accomplishing the activities within the course of a day.

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concerned that we were actually going to get to a point
of physical violence, and I don't think anybody sort of
said things in a -- in such a threatening way that we

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would credibly believe that they were going to do us harm at that point.

If we had proceeded and we had not sort of de-escalated at that point, it's a little bit hard to speculate on what -- what would have happened if we had said, You know what? We're going to do this anyway, over and above everybody's objections.

BY MR. WEAVER:

Q. So I was going to ask you about that. You backed off because you were concerned that there -- it might lead to violence if you continued to try to remove the barriers at that point; is that right?

A. I think that's fair to say, that we didn't want to get into an escalation of -- of conflict. We wanted to de-escalate.

Q. Okay. And you said at some point they noticed the police were hanging back behind you at some distance.

What changed about the crowd when they saw the police?

A. So I think they got a bit more agitated, and they -- more people started coming -- we started this

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And whenever we sort of waited until later morning or even into the afternoon to sort of start activities, we would have a hard time having a full complement of staff available, and we'd have sort of more people around.

And we'd learned that from the installation of the traffic control plan on June 16th and 17th, we'd sort of learned it throughout our engagement over the month of June.

Q. That generally going -- (Simultaneous cross-talk.)

12 BY MR. WEAVER:

Q. That generally going in early in the morning, you were likely to have less of the conflict that you'd have later in the day or in the night; is that right?

A. Right. Right.

Q. So --

A. Also, in the sense of -- just -- you know, just to clarify that just a little bit, you know, some of this was also that, when there were fewer people there, we had a little bit of an easier time communicating with people that spoke on behalf of the protest organizers; that, when there were more people there, there were more people who would sort of step in and say, well, you didn't talk about this with me. You only talked about

	Page 237	
1	MR. WEAVER: All right.	
2	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Going off the record.	
3	The time is approximately 4:25 p.m.	
4	(Recess from 4:25 p.m. to 4:28 p.m.)	
5	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are back on the	
6	record. The time is approximately 4:28 p.m.	
7	MR. CRAMER: And we do not have any	
8	additional questions, but we will will reserve	
9	signature.	
10	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Thank you. This	
11	concludes today's deposition of Sam Samuel Zimbabwe.	
12 13	The time is approximately 4:29 p.m. Going off the	
	record.	
14 15	(Deposition concluded at 4:29 p.m.)	
16	(Reading and signing was requested	
17	pursuant to FRCP Rule 30(e).) -o0o-	
18	-000-	
19		
20		
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	Page 238	
1	CERTIFICATE	
2		
1 7	STATE OF WASHINGTON	
3	STATE OF WASHINGTON	
4	STATE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF PIERCE	
4 5	COUNTY OF PIERCE	
4	COUNTY OF PIERCE I, Cindy M. Koch, a Certified Court Reporter in	
4 5 6	I, Cindy M. Koch, a Certified Court Reporter in and for the State of Washington, do hereby certify that	
4 5 6 7	COUNTY OF PIERCE I, Cindy M. Koch, a Certified Court Reporter in	
4 5 6 7 8	I, Cindy M. Koch, a Certified Court Reporter in and for the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript of the deposition of Samuel	
4 5 6 7 8 9	I, Cindy M. Koch, a Certified Court Reporter in and for the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript of the deposition of Samuel Zimbabwe, having been duly sworn, on October 28, 2021, is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.	
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ERRATA

CASE NAME:	Hunters Capital, LLC v. City of Seattle						
DATE TAKEN:	10/28/2021						
WITNESS:	30(b)(6) and Individual Deposition of Samuel Zimbabwe						
	CORRECTIONS						
Page	Line	Now Reads	Should Read				
		Sam Zimbabwe (Nov 19, 2021 09:					

Signature of Deponent



DECLARATION

CASE NAME: Hunters Capital, LLC v. City of Seattle

DATE TAKEN: 10/28/2021

WITNESS: 30(b)(6) and Individual Deposition of Samuel Zimbabwe

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that I have read my within deposition, and the same is true and accurate, save and except for changes and/or corrections, if any, as indicated by me on the ERRATA flyleaf page hereof.

Sam Zimbabwe (Nov 19, 2021 09:23 PST)

30(b)(6) and Individual Deposition of Samuel Zimbabwe

Signed on the 19th day of November 2021.